

Office of the Director

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January 29, 2011

Dear Arizonan:

One of our top priorities as we implement the <u>Arizona Medical Marijuana Act</u> over the coming months is to ensure that we develop good Rules (called Administrative Code) so we can regulate medical marijuana effectively. Rules that are clear, objective, well-researched, and that balance competing interests are absolutely critical in order to effectively implement a responsible medical marijuana program. Our goal is to develop <u>rules</u> that will ensure qualified patients have access to marijuana for their medical condition while preventing (to the extent possible) recreational marijuana users from accessing marijuana through the Act's provisions.

We received many constructive comments that were helpful during our first comment period in late December and early January, and we made a number of changes using the comments. We recognize that we still need to improve our revised draft rules, and we're asking for additional <u>public comment</u> on the current draft between January 31st and February 18th. Please consider reviewing our draft rules either individually or with other members of your community and provide us with input so that we can make good decisions.

Here are a few tips for providing input:

- Use our comment website so that you can submit your comments electronically.
- Make sure that you tell us what you like about the informal draft rule as well as what you don't like. There is sometimes a tendency for some people to focus on things they don't like and it's just as important for us to know when something is on target.
- Try to provide constructive comments. If you would like us to change a provision in the rule try to provide a pragmatic alternative. It is even better if you can submit alternate Rule language.
- Try to focus on what is good public policy rather than submitting comments that are designed to give yourself a competitive advantage or are self-serving.

Arizonan Page 2 Remember as you comment, the provisions of the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act
limit our ability to regulate in many ways. For example, while the Act gives ADHS
fairly broad authority to regulate the requirements for and actions of dispensaries, it
gives little authority to regulate caregivers. You may want to make sure that the Act
provides the ADHS with the regulatory authority to act before spending a lot of time
submitting comments.

Please be sure to <u>submit your comments</u> between January 31st and February 18th, 2011. We look forward to your input.

Sincerely,

Will Humble

Director